

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) The refuse receptacle lifter assembly of claim 31, wherein said carrier comprises ~~a housing member fixedly mounted to the vehicle, a sliding member to which the receptacle lifter is secured, and a~~ an hydraulic cylinder interposed between the housing base member and the ~~sliding member~~ beam for moving the lifter assembly between the pickup and dumping positions.

3. (Currently Amended) The refuse receptacle lifter assembly of claim 2 wherein the housing base member further comprises an elongated tubular member that receives the sliding member therein.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The refuse receptacle lifter assembly of claim 31 ~~4~~, wherein said lifter support member further comprises a pair of spaced-apart, horizontally oriented beams having an outboard end to which the receptacle lifter is secured and inboard end by which the lifter support member is pivotally secured to the carrier, and a an hydraulic cylinder interposed between the carrier and lifter support member for moving the receptacle lifter between the stored and operating positions.

7-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The refuse receptacle lifter assembly of claim 33, wherein said lifter support member further comprises a pair of spaced-apart, horizontally oriented beams having an outboard end to which the receptacle lifter is secured and an inboard end by which the lifter support member is pivotally secured to the carrier, and a an hydraulic cylinder interposed between the carrier and lifter support member for

moving the receptacle lifter between the stored and operating positions.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The refuse receptacle lifter assembly of claim ~~34~~ 34, wherein said lifter support member further comprises a pair of spaced-apart, horizontally oriented beams having an outboard end to which the receptacle lifter is secured and an inboard end by which the lifter support member is pivotally secured to the carrier, and a an hydraulic cylinder interposed between the carrier and lifter support member for moving the receptacle lifter between the stored and operating positions.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) The refuse receptacle lifter assembly of claim 35, wherein said carrier comprises ~~a housing member fixedly mounted to the vehicle, a sliding member to which the receptacle lifter is secured, and~~ an hydraulic cylinder interposed between the housing member and the sliding member for moving the lifter assembly between the pickup and dumping positions.

21. (Currently Amended) The refuse receptacle lifter assembly of claim 20 wherein the ~~housing~~ base member further comprises an elongated tubular member that receives the ~~sliding member~~ beam therein.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) The refuse receptacle lifter assembly of claim 35, wherein said lifter support member further comprises a pair of spaced-apart, horizontally oriented beams having an outboard end to which the receptacle lifter is secured and an inboard end by which the lifter support member is pivotally secured to the carrier, and a an hydraulic cylinder interposed between the carrier and lifter support member for

moving the receptacle lifter between the stored and operating positions.

24-30 (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) A refuse receptacle lifter assembly adapted for attachment to the front end of front load refuse collection vehicles of the type that are adapted to carry a collection container forward of the vehicle for the accumulation of a quantity of refuse before dumping into a collection cavity in the vehicle, the lifter assembly comprising:

(a) a receptacle lifter for engaging, lifting and
inverting refuse receptacles; and

(b) a transporter adapted to be mounted at the front of the vehicle, the transporter including a carrier comprising a base member fixedly mounted to the vehicle and an elongated beam movably carried by the base member and having a first end portion with a lifter support mounted thereto to which the receptacle lifter is secured, the beam being supporting the receptacle lifter and movable laterally substantially linearly between an extended pickup position in which the carrier first end portion of the beam extends substantially beyond a side of the vehicle to said extended pick-up position to allow the lifter to engage curbside refuse receptacles and a retracted dumping position in which the lifter is located in proximity to the collection container for dumping refuse from the refuse receptacle thereinto, said ~~transporter comprising a lifter support being~~ movably attached to said carrier ~~for moving~~ beam so that said receptacle lifter is movable between a stored position generally adjacent to the front end of the vehicle and an operating position spaced forwardly of the vehicle and laterally of the collection container, said lifter support being positioned generally adjacent to said carrier when said receptacle lifter is in the stored position and extending generally forwardly from

said carrier when said receptacle lifter is in the operating position.

32. (Currently Amended) A refuse collection vehicle comprising:

(a) a refuse collection vehicle including a front end, a rear end, two opposed sides, and a refuse receiving cavity;

(b) a lifter assembly carried by said vehicle at the front end thereof comprising:

(i) a refuse receptacle lifter for engaging, lifting, and inverting a refuse receptacle to dump the contents of the refuse receptacle into a collection container; and

(ii) a transporter located at the front end of said vehicle, said transporter ~~comprising~~ including a carrier comprising a base member fixedly mounted to the vehicle and an elongated beam movably carried by the housing member and having a first end portion with a lifter support mounted thereto to which the receptacle lifter is secured, the beam being supporting said refuse receptacle lifter and movable laterally substantially linearly between a receptacle pick-up position in which the carrier first end portion of the beam extends substantially beyond a side of the vehicle to allow said lifter to engage curbside refuse receptacles and a retracted position in which the lifter is located in proximity to a collection container for dumping refuse from the refuse receptacle thereinto, said carrier comprising ~~a fixed member mounted to the front end of the vehicle, a laterally moveable member to which the receptacle lifter is secured, and a~~ an hydraulic cylinder operatively associated with the ~~fixed~~ base member and the ~~laterally moveable member~~ beam for moving the carrier between the pickup and retracted positions, said transporter further comprising a the lifter support being pivotally attached to said ~~carrier for moving~~ beam so that said receptacle lifter is movable between a stored position generally adjacent to the front end

of the vehicle and an operating position spaced forwardly of the vehicle and laterally of a collection container whereby said lifter assembly may be used to engage, lift and dump contents of curbside refuse receptacles into a front loaded collection container.

33. (Currently Amended) A refuse receptacle lifter assembly adapted for attachment to front end of front load refuse collection vehicles of the type that are adapted to carry a collection container forward of the vehicle for the accumulation of a quantity of refuse before dumping into a collection cavity in the vehicle, the lifter assembly comprising:

(a) a receptacle lifter for engaging, lifting and inverting refuse receptacles;

(b) a transporter adapted to be mounted at the front of the vehicle carrying the receptacle lifter, said transporter comprising a base member adapted to be fixedly mounted to the vehicle and an elongated beam movably carried by the base member and having a first end portion with a lifter support mounted thereto to which the receptacle lifter is secured, a the lifter support being movably attached to the front end of the vehicle for moving said receptacle lifter between a stored position generally adjacent to the front end of the vehicle and an operating position extending generally forwardly of the vehicle and laterally of the collection container, said lifter support being positioned generally adjacent to the front end of the vehicle when said receptacle lifter is in the stored position and generally forwardly from the front end of the vehicle and generally perpendicular to the beam when said receptacle lifter is in the operating position.

34. (Currently Amended) A refuse collection vehicle comprising:

(a) a front end, a rear end, two opposed sides, and a refuse receiving cavity;

(b) a lifter assembly carried by said vehicle at the front end thereof comprising:

- (i) a refuse receptacle lifter for engaging, lifting, and inverting a refuse receptacle to dump refuse from the refuse receptacle into a collection container; and
- (ii) a transporter located at the front end of said vehicle, said transporter comprising a base member adapted to be fixedly mounted to the vehicle and an elongated beam movably carried by the base member and having a first end portion with a lifter support mounted thereto to which the receptacle lifter is secured, a the lifter support being movably attached to the front end of the vehicle for moving said receptacle lifter between a stored position generally adjacent to the front end of the vehicle and an operating position generally perpendicular to the beam spaced forwardly of the vehicle and laterally of a collection container, said lifter support being positioned generally adjacent to the front end of the vehicle when said receptacle lifter is in the stored position and generally forwardly from the front end of the vehicle and generally perpendicular to the beam when said receptacle lifter is in the operating position.

35. (Currently Amended) A refuse receptacle lifter assembly adapted for attachment to the front end of front load refuse collection vehicles of the type that are adapted to carry a collection container forward of the vehicle for the accumulation of a quantity of refuse before dumping into a collection cavity in the vehicle, the lifter assembly comprising:

- (a) a receptacle lifter for engaging, lifting and inverting refuse receptacles;
- (b) a transporter adapted to be mounted in a generally transverse position at the front of the vehicle, the transporter including a carrier comprising a base member fixedly mounted to the vehicle and an elongated beam movably carried by the base

member and having a first end portion with a lifter support mounted thereto to which the receptacle lifter is secured, the beam being supporting the receptacle lifter and movable laterally substantially linearly between an extended pick-up position in which the carrier first end portion of the beam extends substantially beyond a side of the vehicle to allow the lifter to engage a curbside refuse receptacle and a retracted position in which the lifter is located in proximity to the collection container for dumping refuse from the refuse receptacle thereinto; said ~~transporter further comprising a lifter support being~~ movably attached to said carrier beam for moving between a stored position generally adjacent to the front end of the vehicle and an operating position extending generally forwardly of the vehicle and laterally of the collection container.